

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9314

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, MG, MO, AG

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - JANUARY 30

1. SUMMARY:

-- IZVESTIYA CARRIES A MAJOR "OBSERVER" ARTICLE ON ANGOLA WHICH REAFFIRMS SOVIET POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR THE MPLA AND AGAINST THE OTHER FACTIONS (SEPTTEL);

-- U.S. COVERAGE IS VERY LIGHT, WITH COMMENTS PEGGED TO ANGOLA, THE UNSC VETO AND A PURPORTED CZECH DEFECTOR WHO WORKED FOR RADIO FREE EUROPE;

-- REPORTS ON THE ALGERIA-MOROCCO CLASH ARE IMPLICITLY FAVORABLE TO ALGERIA BUT MOSCOW HAS NOT COMMENTED DIRECTLY;

-- SHORT ITEMS ON THE PLENUM OF THE MONGOLIAN CP STRESS MONGOLIA'S EFFORTS TO PRODUCE MORE GRAIN. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. ALL MEDIA FEATURE THE PRESS CONFERENCE IN PRAGUE OF PAVEL MINARIK, IDENTIFIED AS A CZECH INTELLIGENCE OFFICER WHO WENT TO THE WEST IN 1968, WORKED FOR RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RETURNED TO PRAGUE RECENTLY. THE ACCOUNTS OF HIS PRESS CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHT ALLEGED CIA INVOLVEMENT IN RFE AND RADIO LIBERTY, AND THE OPPOSITION TO EUROPEAN COOPERATION BY THOSE ORGANIZATIONS. THE U.S. ALSO TAKES SOME PREDICTABLE KNOCKS IN FURTHER REPORTING OF ARAB REACTIONS TO THE U.S. VETO IN THE UNSC MIDDLE EAST DEBATE AND IN THE ANGOLA ITEM NOTED ABOVE. FINALLY, IZVESTIYA CARRIES A PHOTO OF BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS DEMONSTRATORS IN LOUISVILLE.

3. ALGERIA-MOROCCO. ALL CENTRAL MEDIA CARRY REPORTS OF THE ARMED CLASH BETWEEN ALGERIA AND MOROCCO OVER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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THE "WESTERN" SAHARA. PRAVDA CARRIES TASS REPORTS FROM BOTH ALGIERS AND RABAT WHICH ON BALANCE SEEM TO FAVOR ALGERIA. BUT THUS FAR THE SOVIET MEDIA HAVE NOT COMMENTED SUBSTANTIVELY ON THE SITUATION. THE TASS ACCOUNTS NOTE THAT IRAQI AND SYRIAN ENVOYS HAD TRAVELED TO BOTH COUNTRIES IN AN EFFORT TO MEDIATE THE DISPUTE.

4. MONGOLIA. PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA CARRY SHORT REPORTS ON THE PLENUM OF THE MONGOLIAN CP ON "DETAILS OF CULTIVATING VIRGIN LAND AND INCREASING AGRICUL-

TURAL PRODUCTION." ACCORDING TO PRAVDA'S ACCOUNT,
FIRST SECRETARY TSEDENBAL ANNOUNCED THAT A NUMBER
OF NEW STATE FARMS WOULD BE SET UP IN VIRGIN LANDS
IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE PRODUCTION OF WHEAT AND
FODDER.
STOESSEL

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